

NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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Business New Haven Publisher Awarded by the SBA for Outstanding Efforts in Support of Small Businesses in the State

Hartford—Mitchell R. Young, Publisher for Business New Haven has been named Small Business Journalist of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for both the State and the Region.

Mitchell Young is publisher and co-founder of Second Wind Media Ltd., a small media company that publishes the business newspaper, *Business New Haven* as well as the business directory, *Book of Lists Connecticut*, a comprehensive business directory. He is also responsible for creating several websites including www.Contact.com, www.ctdataengine.com, www.calendar.com and www.ctclix.com.

From its inception and throughout its ten year life span, Young has provided leadership to *Business New Haven*, which has featured hundreds of articles highlighting the efforts of small businesses. He has written various articles on countless small business issues ranging from financing to health insurance to employee training and marketing issues. In addition to his role as co-founder and publisher of the newspaper, Young has personally designed the content, technology and information architecture of the websites published by the company. Second Wind Media's four websites provide the most extensive free online resources available to Connecticut's small businesses.

As publisher of *Business New Haven*, Young has been involved in a variety of community issues and events and has championed education matters among its portfolio of community concerns. Young has directed *Business New Haven's* support of the publicly funded and privately operated Mustard Seed Charter School and Mustard Seed Economic Development Organization in Hamden, Connecticut.

Young has developed and implemented an awards program that recognizes the efforts of a great number of small business people. Among the annual awards given each year is Small Businessperson of the Year, Minority Business Person of the Year, Innovator, Corporate Citizen and Founders. Young supports creativity with his 'Golden Egg' Award to foster the growth potential of creative enterprise by demonstrating the concrete achievement of small business and their importance in the new creative economy of Connecticut.

In addition to his administrative duties, Young has written numerous articles and editorials for *Business New Haven*. His articles have included stylized opinion columns, business news stories, complex feature articles and profiles of small businesses among others.

Young is an outstanding person who is committed to small businesses and to addressing the unique issues that small business owners have in starting and growing their businesses. Young was also recently inducted into the Gateway Community College Hall of Fame for his overall service to the community and his support of the mission of the college.

The SBA annually recognizes individuals and businesses for their experience, expertise and devotion to their professional and personal lives to bettering the small business environment. This recognition is made in conjunction with the nationally celebrated Small Business Week in Orlando, Florida during SBA Expo '04 held May 19-21.

Young and all SBW 2004 award recipients will be honored on Thursday, June 3, 2004 at The Belvedere (formerly Septembers), in New Haven, CT. If you would like more information on this event, or next year's nominations contact Debra Dillon at (860) 240-4700 ext. 242.

A complete list of the 2004 Small Business Week award recipients is attached.

2004 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARD WINNERS

Small Business Person of the Year

Lesley Mills

Griswold Special Care New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury, Meriden, New London, CT

Nominated by

Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General State of Connecticut

REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS

Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year Rafael Collazo

CT Small Bus. Development Center Hartford, CT

Nominated by

Zaiga L. Antonetti CT Small Bus. Development Center

Women in Business Advocate of the Year

Barbara Potopowitz

Perm. Comm. on the Status of Women Hartford, CT

Nominated by

Rose E. Bednarz Gateway Community College

Small Business Journalist of the Year

Mitchell Young

Business New Haven New Haven, CT

Nominated by

Rose E. Bednarz Gateway Community College

DISTRICT AWARD WINNERS

Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year *Charles C. Young*

CT Department of Labor New London, CT

Nominated by

Lou Kennedy US Department of Labor

Financial Services Advocate of the Year

Edward E. Cull

Citizens Bank Connecticut Middletown, CT

Nominated by

John Rosevear Citizens Financial Group

Small Business Exporter of the Year

Raymond Browne David Monighetti

Wyrepak Industries, Inc. Middletown, CT

Nominated by

Sandra K. Weber Hudson United Bank